

President Garfield possessed, except that Holt was an accomplished scholar, which made him more dangerous. The chief underlying traits in such creatures are vanity and selfishness; the desire to enjoy honors or emoluments or both, which they had never earned and failing, to get revenge in some spectacular way which will draw attention to them. Had there been no European war, Holt's mind would have progressed and found vent in some other tragic way.

His education only ministered to the devilish desires which were all the time latent in his selfish soul. All that would have been needed would have been some exciting cause.

Disappointment in any direction would have been enough to have started the thought that he had been personally wronged, or that some theory of his had been disregarded or trampled upon, and then revenge in some spectacular way would have been his study. All the time, too, while planning a sensational tragedy he would have concealed with a devilish subtlety his real nature. With such creatures all sense of justice is dead, and it is their habit to finally conclude that whatever interferes with their desires must be unjust.

If this man Holt's real history could be obtained we suspect that it would be found that he was born to unloving parents; that through life he has never had any respect for the laws; and that no discipline ever controlled him except through his personal fears.

The mental disease in this form is latent from birth, if not pre-natal, so all that is needed is some exciting cause to set the germs into active growth at any time, and without any particular cause they begin to grow and culminate in some tragic form soon after the age of forty years is reached.

There should be more study of the mental tendencies of the youth of our country in the schools, and more and more should be impressed the truth that unloving marriages are crimes. Holt should be commended for his final act, for he rid the world of a monster.

The foregoing was written before the story of Holt's life was wired. That shows that he has been a dangerous lunatic since birth, at any time ready to commit murder, if anyone crossed him or made him trouble or offended his vanity; like the old story of the creature that had sold his soul to the evil one for a promise of a life of pleasure and freedom from physical pain, only it is clear that Holt was so sublime an egotist that he had determined to make an unheard of sensation, and at the same time counted on escaping as he had done before.

He evidently was one of the most dangerous perverses that there is any record of.

Finance of War

UNDER the above heading the Mirror of St. Louis has this:

Exchange goes on lowering the value of the British pound, measured in dollars. French government securities are down and German finances are confused and precarious. It looks as if Europe is drifting to a paper basis—"scraps of paper" for money, everywhere. Production minimized everywhere, diverted to war purposes. England expects her debt soon to go to two thousand millions. Where is the money coming from? From the people, of course, in taxation! Can they, will they stand it? Revolution and repudiation loom in the future.

Of course the people will. They always do. When the paper promises are reduced to half promises and the war ceases from utter exhaustion, then the gentlemen who understand the miracle of interest, will come out of hiding with their gold, suggest to the governments that they take up the dishonored paper and issue interest-bearing bonds for the full amount of the promises printed on the paper, then they will buy the half-price

paper promises and exchange them for the bonds, and the people will pay the interest right along until the next war makes it necessary to repeat the performance. This was improved upon after our great war. The paper was bought at about 45 cents on the dollar, then exchanged for the bonds; then half the money of the people was converted into a commodity, and when the commodity, measured in gold began to fall and the people murmured, those interest-gatherers, hired orators, writers and newspapers to ask the unreasonable people who pay the taxes, if they would cheat the philanthropists who bought their bonds by paying them in half-weight dollars.

Then the poor deluded fools who pay the taxes became indignant that any reproach should be cast upon their stainless integrity and declared by their ballots that they were impervious against any such dishonest proposition. And they have been paying the interest on those bonds ever since, and those philanthropic interest-gatherers have been taking the money and with it have made panics or good times as they pleased; they have held congress and the country in their grip, and have fixed the leading press so that it is ready to jump upon anybody that ventures to express the belief that they are not all angels, and the people have never awakened to the fact that they were fooled and robbed and wronged worse than any generous people ever were before, and they are like Falstaff's soldiers, food for the stomachs of the cormorants that pick their bones.

As to a Merchant Marine

THE Chambers of Commerce of the United States have voted on the proposition of the president, backed by the endorsement of Secretaries McAdoo and Redfield to purchase ships for the nucleus of a merchant marine and operate them on government account.

The vote must be a little discouraging to the president and the secretaries. It foots up 82 for and 638 against the proposition. All the east, the middle west and west opposed the plan. The only support came from southern and far western cities and those in the far west were influenced by the thought that anything for a starter would be better than nothing at all. The vote on the other proposition, to buy the ships and lease them to private companies was more strongly condemned, the vote being 54 for and 711 against.

The business organizations voted in favor of subventions from the government to establish regular mail and freight lines under the American flag to commercially important ports, 718 to 48. The proposal for subsidies sufficient to offset the increased cost of operation of ships under American navigation laws, in foreign commerce, also carried, but not by so large a vote, being 558 to 186. It is evident that some of the organizations would prefer modifying our navigation laws.

The committee recommendations for a federal shipping board, for government subscription to a marine development company, for reducing the minimum speed for first-class mail steamers, for federal licenses and for abolition of rebates and provision for supervision of rates by the proposed Federal Shipping Board, all carried, by varying votes, the second receiving the highest adverse vote, there being 422 for and 314 against.

One would think that it was about time for a little common sense to be used on this subject of a merchant marine. Assuming that the most virulent enemy of American shipping has been convinced, during the past eleven months, that a great commercial nation is not great so long as it depends upon outside nations for the transportation of its overseas commerce, the next question is what to do?

The first fact that presents itself is that if a nation or a private company owns and runs ships, those ships must be kept in repair. That makes home shipyards necessary.

The next fact is that if ships are to be obtained they must be either built or bought. If they are bought from abroad the money paid for them goes out of the country forever. If they are built at home every dollar of their cost remains at home and is kept in the general money circulation of the country, and coal mines, reduction works, railroad companies and shipbuilders are all helped, and such ships add when in foreign ports to the nation's prestige that builds them.

Next, merchants and manufacturers will unite in the statement that they will never go to the trouble of establishing trade relations in foreign countries unless assured in advance that their country's ships will touch at such centers regularly for a number of years while they are building up a trade.

Finally, it is a plain case that ships paying higher wages than the ships of any other country cannot successfully compete unaided with foreign ships that receive regular subsidies or bounties.

The above makes the situation clear, and the question is: Have the authorities the ability and patriotism and business acumen to bring out of it something that will begin to restore our flag to the sea? We confess to grave doubts.

See The Bell!

GO to see the Liberty Bell! It is a poor little old bell, but it is hallowed by sacred memories, and so sanctified that the sight of it ought to make any American heart throb faster.

It is the bell that sure enough rang out the old, rang in the new.

It heralded a world's transformation, it sounded a call for the poor and the oppressed to advance into the light of liberty and to at last stand erect in the dawn of a new day. Before it sounded its call, man was everything, men nothing. Its ringing changed the measure and gave notice that a new ledger had been opened in which all men should have their accounts exactly kept, and full credit should be given to real worth though clothed in rags and robes of purple would weigh nothing save they were worn by real men. It rang out in the darkness, but at its sound superstition, tyranny, oppression and injustice spread their black wings and fled away and a celestial light filled the world. Go to see it! It was a herald of Freedom. Its ringing was an angel song of hope to mankind. Go to see it!

Real Instruction

WE sincerely hope that young Utah is keeping a close watch upon the case which has been occupying one of the courts at Ogden for several days past. No matter how the case may terminate, the proceedings of the trial should be studied by the young Mormon people, for they cannot fail to realize the fact that as conditions were here twenty-five years ago, it was time for a radical change. The study of the case may soften their opinions of some of the people who cried out for a change, and kept crying until the change came.

What the change brought in a material way can be seen on every hand, but what was taught and practiced here, while not fully revealed in the progress of this trial, can at least be partly shown. From it young Utah can partly understand what held Utah under a sort of paralysis while near-by states with far less resources were roaring with prosperity; and held Utah under a ban because what was maintained here was a shame to modern civilization. We hope young Utah will read carefully the proceedings of this trial in Ogden and from it be the more fully impressed that when man practices what is a shame to woman, the practice always brings its own revenge through the shame and disgrace of the man.